

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-10 L-03 ACDA-12
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 SP-02 TRSE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00
SSO-00 OMB-01 INRE-00 /062 W
-----020740 221552Z /45

O R 221432Z JUN 78 ZFF 4
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 9615
SECDEF WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY OSLO
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK
AMEMBASSY ROME
USNMR SHAPE
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 11492

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MPOL, MILI, GW
SUBJECT: NATO AWACS - GERMAN CONTRIBUTION TO R & D

REFS: (A) BONN 11309
(B) BOWMAN-SMYSER TELCON, JUNE 21

1. ON BASIS OF REF B, THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR TODAY
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ASKED GENERAL ALTENBURG WHAT MIGHT BE THE CHANCES FOR
THE GERMAN INTERIM CONTRIBUTION TO BE MADE BEFORE
BUNDESTAG APPROVAL.

2. ALTENBURG SAID HE SAW NO WAY IN WHICH THIS COULD BE
HANDLED EXCEPT BY A DIRECT MESSAGE TO MINISTER APEL.
HE SAID APEL HAD COMMITTED HIMSELF TO THE BUNDESTAG TO

ASK FOR NO FURTHER AWACS FUNDING UNTIL BUNDESTAG APPROVAL FOR THE ENTIRE SYSTEM HAD BEEN GIVEN, AN APPROVAL WHICH ALTENBURG SAID COULD NOT POSSIBLY COME BEFORE THE FALL.

3. THEREFORE, ALTENBURG CONCLUDED, ONLY MINISTER APEL COULD CHANGE THE POSITION CONTAINED IN AMBASSADOR PAULS' LETTER, AND ALTENBURG ASSUMED THE MINISTER WOULD DO IT ONLY ON THE BASIS OF A PERSONAL REQUEST FROM SECRETARY BROWN.

4. ALTENBURG SUGGESTED, AS A FIRST STEP, TALKING TO STATE SECRETARY SCHNELL.

5. COMMENT: THE POLITICAL COUNSELOR IS CALLING ON STATE SECRETARY SCHNELL TOMORROW IN CONNECTION WITH ANOTHER MATTER. IF WASHINGTON WISHES, HE COULD TAKE TO SCHNELL AT THAT TIME WHATEVER MESSAGE TO APEL WE MIGHT WISH TO SEND.

6. HOWEVER, FROM THE WAY ALTENBURG ADDRESSED THE ISSUE IN THIS AND EARLIER CONVERSATIONS, WE CANNOT OFFER ANY ASSURANCES THAT APEL WOULD REVERSE THE GERMAN POSITION.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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